



Dkt. 2271/71533

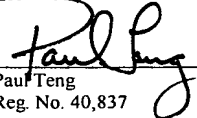
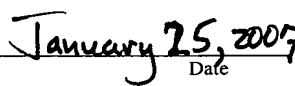
THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Yuuki INOUE

Serial No.: 10/804,368

Date Filed: March 18, 2004

For: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD, PROGRAM, COMPUTER READABLE
INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM, IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND
IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.	
 Paul Teng Reg. No. 40,837	 Date

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to the applicant's duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner.

It is respectfully requested that the references listed in the annexed Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, and that such art be made of record in said application.

According to the August 5, 2003 OG Notice published by the Patent and Trademark Office, the Office has waived the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each cited U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and for all international application that have entered the national stage under 35 U.S.C. §371 after June 30, 2003.

Accordingly, copies are submitted herewith for only references listed on the annexed Form PTO-1449 that are not a U.S. patent or U.S. patent application publication.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that these items are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped,

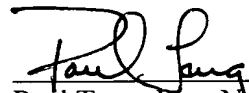
however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of the particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3). To the best of Applicants' knowledge, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the date of mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in connection with this application.

The Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees that are required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 06-2140.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Teng", is written over a horizontal line.

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Form PTO-1449		U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office		Atty. Docket No. 2271/71533		Serial No. 10/804,368							
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)				Applicants: Yuuki Inoue									
				Filing Date: March 18, 2004		Group Art Unit: 2621							
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS													
Examiner Initial	Document Number							Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate	
	20	02	/0	03	67	87	A1	3-28-2002	Kondo				
	20	02	/0	05	11	59	A1	5-2-2002	Tamagawa				
	20	03	/0	03	49	83	A1	2-20-2003	Muramoto				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS													
	Document Number							Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
	WO	9	3	/	2	0	6	4	8	10/14/1993	PCT		
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)													
EXAMINER								DATE CONSIDERED					
*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609: Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.													